REMARKS

The Office Action in the above-identified application has been carefully considered and this amendment has been presented to place this application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reexamination and reconsideration of this application are respectfully requested.

Claims 59-123 are in the present application. It is submitted that these claims were patentably distinct over the prior art cited by the Examiner, and that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112. The changes to the claims, as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. sections 101, 102, 103 or 112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

Claims 59-62, 72-77, 86-90, and 99-105 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-2 and 4-22 of U.S. Patent 6,185,687. Claims 106-107 and 110-112 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 23-26 of U.S. Patent 6,185,687 in view of U.S. Patent 5,418,853. Applicants have amended each of the independent claims in the present application. Accordingly, the present claims are no longer similar to the issued claims of the '687 patent and this rejection should now be withdrawn.

In addition, as noted by the Examiner, a timely filed terminal disclaimer may be used to overcome the provisional double patenting rejections provided the conflicting patent is shown to be commonly owned with the present application. The conflicting '687 patent is commonly owned with the present application. However, it is not clear whether following prosecution the

allowable claims from the present application will be obvious in view of the issued claims in U.S. Patent 6,185,687. Hence, Applicants agree to file a terminal disclaimer if the allowable claims in the present application are found to be obvious in view of the issued claims of U.S. Patent 6,185,687.

Claims 59-60, 73, 75-77, 86-87, 101, and 103-105 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Kanota et al. (U.S. Patent 5,418,853). Claims 61-66, 71-72, 78, 80-85, 89-94 and 99-100 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanota in view of Kondo (U.S. Patent 5,538,773). Claims 67-70 and 95-99 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanota in view of Kondo and further in view of Sato (U.S. Patent 5,392,128). Claims 74 and 102 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanota in view of Ryan (U.S. Patent 4,577,216). Claims 106-109, 111-115, and 117 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanota in view of Kondo and further in view of Takahashi (U.S. Patent 5,960,151). Claim 110 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanota in view of Kondo, Takahashi and Sato. Claim 116 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanota in view of Kondo, Takahashi and Ryan. Claims 118-120 and 122-123 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi in view of Kimoto et al. (U.S. Patent 5,303,294) and further in view of Lieberfarb et al. (U.S. Patent 5,488,410). Claim 121 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi in view of Kimoto, Lieberfarb, and Ryan.

However, in the present invention "said pre-set conversion operation for said analog signal includes a color burst inverting operation in which the phase of a front part of a color burst

signal in said analog signal is inverted" (Claims 59, 78, and 86) This color burst inverting operation is shown in Figure 15 and disclosed in the Specification at pages 50-51. Applicants believe that none of the cited references discloses an analogous color burst phase reversal process and therefore fail to meet the "color burst inverting operation" limitation as required by amended claims 59-105.

Further, in the present invention "said program area comprises a sync portion, a header portion, and a data area; said key information being stored in said header portion of said program area" (Claims 106, 11, and 118) The structure of the program area is shown in Figure 5. Applicants believe that none of the cited references discloses an analogous program area in which key information is stored in a header portion; and therefore fail to meet the "program area" limitations as required by amended claims 106-123.

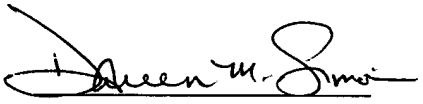
Accordingly, for at least these reasons, any combination of Kanota, Kondo, Sato, Takahashi, Kimoto, Lieberfarb, and Ryan fails to obviate the present invention and the rejected claims should now be allowed.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application as now presented is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

No additional fees are deemed to be required for the filing of this amendment, but if such are, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions, he/she is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number provided below. The Examiner's consideration of this matter is gratefully acknowledged.

Respectfully submitted,
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

By: 

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